GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:293
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2005
IRREGULARITIES IN DENTAL COLLEGES
Malhotra Prof. Vijay Kumar;Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether irregularities have come to the notice of the Government during the surprise check of 11 dental colleges in the country;

(b)if so, whether the Dental Council of India (DCI) has urged the Government to put a ban on setting up of new dental colleges for the next five years;

(c)if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Justice Anil Dev Singh Commission has been set up to enquire into the irregularities of the DCI;

(e)if so, the details of the recommendations of the Commission; and

(f)the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(f):A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 293 FOR 23RD MARCH, 2005

As per information provided by the Dental Council of India (DCI), it had conducted inspections in 11 Dental Colleges across the Country in December, 2004. Certain deficiencies in terms of teaching staff and other infrastructural facilities have been found during the inspection. DCI has initiated further necessary action in respect of these cases. The matter is under consideration of the Executive Committee of DCI. In the year 2002, the Dental Council had separately recommended to the Central Government to put a moratorium on setting up of new Dental Colleges and increase of admission capacity in the existing colleges for the next five years due to acute shortage of teaching manpower. After due examination of the recommendation, the government was of the view that it might not be feasible to impose complete ban, as proposed by the DCI, while strict adherence to standards should be made before permitting any new Dental seats.

The Central Government in the year, 1998, also had constituted Justice Anil Dev Singh Commission under Section 54 of the Dentists Act, 1948, to enquire into the alleged irregularities of the Dental Council of India. The Commission has submitted its report. The Commission, interalia, recommended that a person, authority or an institution should have the entire set up in place including the infrastructure and full strength of teachers required upto 4th year of the BDS course before it was granted permission by the Central Government to establish a new dental college. One of the members of the Commission has submitted a dissenting view. The report is under examination in the Ministry.

A comprehensive view on the two issues will be taken by this Ministry after detailed examination.